

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 0842

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: CSCE, PL, UR, XH

SUBJECT: MORE ON IDEOLOGICAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARIES
MEETING

REF: WARSAW 0628 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. A BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICER ON FEBRUARY 9 GAVE US FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT THE WARSAW MEETING OF COMMUNIST PARTY IDEOLOGICAL AND FOREIGN-AFFAIRS SECRETARIES (REFERENCE). ATTRIBUTING HIS INFORMATION TO TWO EAST EUROPEAN AND ONE WESTERN DIPLOMAT, HE SAID THAT SOVIET CONCERN ABOUT WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY INDEPENDENCE AND GROWING WESTERN CRITICISM OF DETENTE SET THE TONE OF DISCUSSION. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE SOVIETS REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED ANNOYANCE ABOUT THE

ATTITUDE OF THE "30 PERCENT" OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES THAT ARE STILL PREVENTING AGREEMENT ON THE CONVENING OF A EUROPEAN PARTY CONFERENCE (ECPC). THE SOVIETS ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR APPREHENSION OVER CURRENT TENDENCIES TOWARD INDEPENDENCE AMONG WEST EUROPEAN PARTIES AND ABOUT A RELATED DRIFT TOWARD A GROUPING OF ORTHODOX, MAINLY RULING PARTIES, ON ONE HAND, AND INDEPENDENT, MOSTLY NON-RULING PARTIES, ON THE OTHER. IT WAS REPORTEDLY DECIDED THAT STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO INCREASE THE IDEOLOGICAL INFLUENCE OF THE MOSCOW-ORIENTED PARTIES OVER THE MORE INDEPENDENT ONES.

3. GROWING WESTERN CRITICISM OF DETENTE ALSO DREW EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN FROM THE SOVIET DELEGATION, AND IT WAS REPORTEDLY DECIDED TO STEP UP THE EFFORT TO PROPAGANDIZE THE ALLEGED BENEFITS OF DETENTE AND CSCE.

4. DISCUSSION OF PORTUGAL REPORTEDLY LED TO A DECISION TO ATTACK ALL POLITICAL ELEMENTS TO THE RIGHT OF THE SOCIALISTS AND TO SUPPORT THE UNITED-FRONT IDEA LINKING COMMUNISTS AND SOCIALISTS. ON ANGOLA, THE MEETING SIMPLY AGREED TO INCREASE IDEOLOGICAL SUPPORT OF THE MPLA, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT.

4. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THAT ANOTHER SUCH CONCLAVE SHOULD BE HELD LATER IN THE YEAR, POSSIBLY IN PRAGUE.

5. COMMENT: THE PRESENCE OF THE ROMANIAN REPRESENTATIVE WOULD PRESUMABLY HAVE MADE SOME OF THE DISCUSSION MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH TWO, ABOVE, RATHER AWKWARD. WE SUSPECT THAT THE ACTUAL DISCUSSION AND THE ENSUING DECISIONS MAY NOT HAVE ASSUMED SUCH CONCRETE AND STARK FORM AS PRESENTED TO US. THE BASIC THRUST OF THE BRITISH REPORT SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE, HOWEVER, PARTICULARLY CONCERNING THE APPREHENSION ABOUT INDEPENDENT TENDENCIES AMONG THE WEST EUROPEAN PARTIES.

6. WE NOTE THAT POLITBIURO MEMBER JAN SZYDLAK, WHO REPRESENTED THE POLISH PARTY AT THE WARSAW MEETING, ALSO LED THE POLISH DELEGATION TO THE FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY CONFIDENTIAL

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GRESS. THE TRYBUNA LUDU VERSION OF HIS SPEECH IN LILLE ON FEBRUARY 6 CONTAINS SOME VERY ORTHODOX LANGUAGE ABOUT PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM AND A STRONG PLUG FOR EARLY CONVENING OF A NECPC. ADDITIONALLY, A BRIEF TRYBUNA LUDU COMMENTARY ON THE FRENCH PARTY CONGRESS ON FEBRUARY 9 DISCUSSES WITH CONSIDERABLE RESERVE THE FRENCH PARTY'S DECISION CONCERNING THE NON-ESSENTIAL NATURE OF THE DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT AND STRESSES THAT DURING

DEBATE ON THAT QUESTION THE PARTICIPANTS EMPHASIZED THE
"UNIVERSAL NATURE" OF BASIC EXPERIENCES IN BUILDING
SOCIALISM. WHILE TRYBUNA LUDU'S COMMENTARY IS FOR HOME
CONSUMPTION, SZYDLAK'S SPEECH WAS PROBABLY MEANT AS A
VEILED ADMONITION TO FRENCH COMMUNISTS.
DAVIES

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NNN

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